

"I would call for some logical understanding of the negative impact this merger would have upon the underpinnings of our great country, competition.

I point you the source aggregator (sp?) wikipedia for a listing of all cellular telecoms in this "grand ol' country".

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/L...>

Now, carefully, look at the list for all GSM providers. Every single one of them with the exception of T-Mobile and AT&T have a combined total of less than 2 million subscribers (TrakPhone actually USES all carriers lines and towers). AT&T has roughly 97 million and T-Mobile has 33.7 million. They are also the ONLY providers of NATIONWIDE coverage for GSM phones, period. If you were to allow this merger you would actually allow ALL nationwide GSM service in the country to be held under one roof. GSM currently is the only cellular technology in the US that allows its subscribers the freedom of moving of one carrier to another with their purchased phone. CDMA (the opposing technology) locks its user's phone to their current subscribed company. As such, if someone wanted to switch to another company, they would have to purchase new hardware. It is also the only US cellular service that works worldwide as GSM is the European standard, with a current subscriber base of 1.5 billion users world-wide.

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/G...>

You cannot use CDMA phones in 70 percent of the world. AT&T would be the only national provider in the US of GSM based international phones. Completely, and absolutely; to price however they see fit for over HALF of the entire countries cellular phone users, not to mention 40 percent of the entire countries population PERIOD. At 130 million customers... one hundred and thirty million US citizens would only one choice of provider for their preferred choice in cellular technology.

How can we as the United States of America show the strength of our economic system of choice, if we allow the basics of that system to be broken, and weakened in the name of political motivation and lobbying? The FCC is there for the protection of the people, and not once in this decade and possible century will proof of this be more evident than in this instance.

Do NOT allow this merger to happen. Prove to this countries citizens that the FCC is not swayed by lobbyists and political beliefs. That the FCC is for the people, by the people, with the people. "

Also consider the monopoly in my local area from AT&T and notice how the prices for broadband access have only gone up in price. Notice how they have started forcing data caps on residents to bleed more of our hard earned money so they can continue to make HUGE profits.

Seeing what has happened in my local market, I expect AT&T to continue to do the same if the merger happens. The worst part of it, with another competitor out of the game, T-Mobile, they will drive prices high with no benefit.

And consider that according to AT&T's own filing that they can barely run their own system and keep it running properly with the amount of subscribers they currently have.

And on top their bid for 700mhz spectrum D and E blocks they are trying to buy from Qualcomm.

A very good summary of why this should not happen:

"The argument against the AT&T/T-Mobile merger boils down to AT&T possessing an unacceptably large chunk of wireless broadband market share. But that's the case with the AT&T/Qualcomm acquisition as well, the reform groups charge.

Licenses for this beachfront spectrum below the 1GHz mark are "disproportionately held by two companies, AT&T and Verizon Wireless," they note "The proposed Qualcomm license transfer would only further this competitive disparity." So it makes no sense for the FCC to consider one merger/transfer proposal in isolation from the other:

Applicants attempt to argue simultaneously that AT&T faces substantial competition from a large number of wireless carriers, and that AT&T needs additional spectrum licenses to continue to operate its business. Neither of these arguments is true?and certainly, both cannot be true at the same time, as most of AT&T's supposed competitors possess far smaller and far less valuable spectrum license holdings. Furthermore, AT&T and Qualcomm did not acknowledge the proposed merger between AT&T and T-Mobile in their filings in the Qualcomm docket, including in the opposition filed after the T-Mobile merger was officially announced, even though such a transaction is clearly relevant to the determinations that the Commission must make in reviewing the 700MHz license transfer application.

"The proposed merger between AT&T and T-Mobile would reshape the entire American wireless industry in a single stroke," the groups conclude. Bottom line: if the FCC doesn't reject the Qualcomm deal outright. It should consolidate both applications into one package, "so that the full scale of AT&T's increasing market dominance can be evaluated." "

From arstechnica.com

That is too much power and market dominance from a company that had to be broken up back in the 1980's because of their predatory nature, which still has not changed. We really do need more regulations in this industry.